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OK

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TIME

(AUGUST 23, 1935)
DATE

(FRIDAY)
DAY

PRODUCTION

ANNOUNCER

ENGINEER

REMARKS

ANNOUNCER: Uncle Sam's Forest Rangers.

ORCH: QUARTET: RANGER SONG:

ANNOUNCER: Summer time is vacation time for most people but to the ranger force in Uncle Sam's great National Forests the summer months are the busiest of the year for in addition to the fire protection work it is the season for the construction of improvements - it is the period when millions of people go into the National Forests for recreation and then of course there is the grazing business to handle. And so it is rare indeed that a forest ranger takes a vacation in summer. Ranger Jim Robbins of the Pine Cone District has never taken a vacation in the summer time save a single day now and then, but for years it has been his secret desire to do so. I suppose it is a desire born of envy of those carefree summer visitors who spent the hot days in the cool nooks along the mountain streams and lake shores with apparently not a care in the world.

Well anyway it seems Jim's ambition is about to be realized for the Supervisor has approved his application for two weeks leave of absence and all arrangements have been made for Jerry Quick to take full charge of the District while he is away --

And where do you suppose Jim is going on this vacation? (CHUCKLES) You have heard about the sailor who had a day off so he went for a boat ride - well, Jim has decided on a camping trip with a pack outfit. And Boss is going along. They are going to ride the wilderness areas and camp out in the high country just like they used to do years ago when they first joined the Forest Service.

As we tune in preparations for the trip are in the final stages - Here they are --

JIM: Well, Bess, got all your duffel together now? I'm already to pack old Baldy.

BESS: Yes, Jim my personal stuff is all packed in that duffel bag.

JIM: Got all your war paint?

BESS: Why Jim you know I never use rouge.

JIM: I mean that stuff for chapped lips and sunburn an' skeeters--

BESS: Oh yes, that's in.

JIM: All right here goes. Stand over Baldy. (HORSE STEPS) Whoa, now ---

JERRY: (COMING UP) Hey Jim, let me give you a hand with that packing.

JIM: Yeah, thanks, I'm anxious to get started.

JERRY: (LAUGHS) Gee Jim, do you think you can get all this plunder on one horse?

JIM: Yes, I reckon so - more bulk than weight to it. Was a time we could travel pretty light but we seem to need a lot more gim-cracks now days.

BESS: You can make use of my gimcracks if you want to but I'm not going camping if I can't be comfortable.

JIM: (CHUCKLES) I hope poor old Baldy don't get that same idea.

JERRY: (LAUGHS) Look at him. Did you ever see anything more dejected looking?

JIM: Baldy! Straighten up there - (HORSE STEPS) How does the pack hang, Jerry?

JERRY: Little low on this side Jim. - Got something to put on top of the pannier?

JIM: Yeah, how about this cardboard box?

BESS: Now be careful and don't put that box where it will crush.

JERRY: What's in it Mrs. Robbins?

BESS: Never mind, it's just some things I want and I don't want them crushed.

JIM: Well, I reckon that's as safe as any place. We'll lay the bedding right over it. There --

JERRY: Now the tent for a pack cover eh? Want me to help you throw the diamond?

JIM: No, I'll use my own hitch Jerry. (GRUNTS) Just like old times, eh Bess? Packing up - ready for the trail -

BESS: Yes, Jim - but somehow I don't feel as excited about it as I used to. I know the riding will make me awfully sore at first.

JIM: (ENTHUSIASTICALLY) Oh, wait 'till we get away from civilization - up in the high country - Remember that trip we made across to Trappers Lake? - Let's see that was 25 years ago wasn't it Bess? And the time we first went into Lost Park?

BESS: Yes Jim - they were lovely trips - I - I just wonder if this will be the same.

JIM: Why not? It'll be better because I'm not going to do a lick of work this trip. Just camp and fish and ride the wilderness.

JERRY: Gosh Jim you make me wish I was going too. - Nothing to do but ride and camp and go fishing. - What a vacation.

BESS: I suppose so, but I'll be glad when I get used to that saddle again.

JERRY: Oh you won't mind it Mrs. Robbins. Trinket is the easiest little horse you ever mounted.

BESS: Yes, I know, and it was lovely of Mary to send her over for me to ride.

JIM: There! That, son, is a good looking pack if I do say it myself

JERRY: (LAUGHS) Yeah and as big as a covered wagon.

JIM: Well, it'll be a lot smaller before we get back home. Now Jerry you keep the lookouts on their toes and the guards too, won't you?

JERRY: Don't worry Jim, I'll look after everything.

BESS: And be sure and feed the chickens and see that they have fresh water.

JERRY: I'll see that everything is --

JIM: And don't forget the report of timber sold and cut is due in the Supervisor's office the first.

JERRY: Yes, I'll take care of it.

JIM: And keep an eye on that road crew --

JERRY: Sure - leave it to me - you just forget about everything and have a good time.

JIM: Well - can I help you mount, Bess?

BESS: Please, Jim - oh-o - there -

JIM: (GRUNTS) 'Er - you all set?

BESS: No, this stirrup on the other side is twisted. I can't get my foot in.

JIM: (CHUCKLES) There you are. I s'pect you'll be climbing on and off that horse just like Mary by the time we get back.

BESS: I hope so.

JIM: Come Dolly -- goodbye Jerry.

BESS: Goodbye--

JERRY: Goodbye folks - have a good time.

(FADE OUT MUSIC)

FADE IN:

BESS: (OFF) Jim, oh, Jim - wait a minute.

JIM: What is it, Bess?

BESS: Look at all the lovely huckleberries. Did you ever see so many?
The bushes are just blue with them. Let's stop and pick some -

JIM: Yeah, but - but what would we do with 'em?

BESS: Have them for supper - They're lovely -

JIM: What would you gather them in?

BESS: Oh surely we can find something - Put them in your canteen.

JIM: No, we might want a drink.

BESS: Well here, we'll put them in my hat. I'll carry them.

JIM: (CONTRARILY) Well - I think we had better keep moving if we're
going to camp at Blue Lake tonight. It's quite a ways up
there yet.

BESS: (RELUCTANTLY) I guess you're right Jim. Let's keep moving.
Tsk, tsk. Go on Trinket. (HORSES START WALKING)

JIM: (CALLS) Come Baldy - come on old timer. Old Baldy has
followed right up today.

BESS: Yes, he hasn't been a bit of trouble and with that big pack too.

JIM: Yeah, Baldy isn't good for anything else but he is a good pack
horse - Whoa Dolly.

BESS: What are you going to do Jim?

JIM: That fire warning looks pretty dilapidated. I think I'll post
a fresh one.

BESS: Now Jim this is a vacation trip and we're not going to spend it posting fire signs - Besides it's a long ways to Blue Lake -

JIM: Oh, it won't take but a jiffy - (OFF) And then it will be done
(SOUND OF DRIVING FOUR TACK IN A BOARD)

JIM: (COMING UP) There, that didn't take long.

BESS: (SIGHS) No, not very long and if I could have been picking huckleberries -

JIM: (LAUGHS) You win Bess. If we see any more huckleberries we'll stop and pick a hat full. - Come Dolly - (HORSES WALKING)

BESS: Jim, where are you going? - This is the trail down here --

JIM: (OFF) Let's circle up on the ridge Bess. (COMINGUP) I always ride out on that point. - It's a good lookout point. - I can look around for a smoke. - See what a sweep of country -

BESS: But Jim, we're not hunting fires. This is a vacation trip. - There's Jerry and the lookouts and the fire truck crew and the CCC to take care of them -

JIM: Yes, I know, but I like to keep an eye on things myself.

BESS: And what would you do if you discovered a fire?

JIM: Well, I don' know I reckon --

BESS: I know - you'd start right for the fire and drag me along with you. So let's get right away from here.

JIM: (LAUGHS) Well, seeing there's no smoke showing up anywhere -

BESS: (SHARPLY) Jim, look at Baldy - he's going under that low tree -

JIM: (SHOUTS) Baldy whoa! - Back! Back out there! (CLATTER OF HOOFES
(MORE SHOUTING OFF)

BESS: (COMING UP) Oh dear, look at that pack.

JIM: (STERNLY) Whoa now --

BESS: Careful Jim - he'll run -

JIM: (COAXINGLY) Whoa, Baldy, come Baldy, come boy. There -
(ANGRILY) You old fool if it would do any good I'd take a club to yuh.

BESS: (DISTRESSED) Just look at that pack. I know everything is ruined - and the things I had in that box --

JIM: I'll have to take everything off and repack 'im. (HORSE STEPS AROUND) Whoa, now.

(FADE OUT)

(MUSIC)

(FADE IN)

BESS: Why don't you sit down Jim and enjoy the fire (CRACKLE OF CAMP FIRE) It's so lovely and peaceful -

JIM: I'm looking for my pipe - have you seen it anywhere?

BESS: No dear, but it must be here somewhere. You had it after we made camp.

JIM: Oh here it is in my hip pocket.

BESS: Well, do sit down and rest. You've had a hard day - Here, take this pillow.

JIM: (GRUNTS) Pillows on a pack trip.

BESS: Yes, but they feel so good against these rocks. Wasn't it lucky Baldy didn't break a single egg?

JIM: (MOODILY) Yeah - eggs and cantaloupes on a pack trip. It's lucky Jerry and I didn't look into that box when we were packing it.

BESS: Yes, for now they came through the wreck all right you enjoy them as much as I --

JIM: Um - h - I reckon we all get soft and luxury loving in our old age -

BESS: I'm not nearly so tired as I expected to be. Don't you think we ought to have some more wood on the fire?

JIM: Yes. - Lots of it here - no use to be stingy with it (GRUNTS - THROWS ON WOOD) There! How's that? (CRACKLE OF FLAMES)

BESS: Oh, that's lovely - a nice fire feels so good in this chilly air. I suppose you will go fishing before breakfast.

JIM: (HALF-HEARTEDLY) Yes, I reckon so - I'll try my luck for a little while - I hope Jerry don't forget to take his humidity readings every morning. It don't take long this time of year for fire weather to develop.

BESS: Jim Robbins if you don't stop worrying about fires and join this vacation trip I'm going to start for home in the morning.

JIM: (CHUCKLES) I reckon you're right Bess but I just don't feel natural up here without any work to do.

ANNOUNCER: Well, they say it's hard to teach an old dog new tricks. Jim's summer vacation may yet turn out to be just another business trip. Uncle Sam's Forest Rangers will be on the air again next Friday. This program was presented by the National Broadcasting Company, with the cooperation of the United States Forest Service.

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